



United States Department of Agriculture

News Release

National
Agricultural
Statistics Service

In Cooperation with the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship
Iowa Field Office · 210 Walnut Street Ste 833 · Des Moines IA 50309 · (515) 284-4340 · (800)772-0825
fax (515) 284-4342 or (800) 719-1794 · www.nass.usda.gov

Media Contact: *Jospeh Prusacki*

Sheep Inventory

Iowa: All sheep and lambs inventory at 235,000 head is unchanged from last year. Total breeding stock, at 175,000 head, increased by 2.9 percent from a year ago. Compared to last year, market sheep and lambs decreased to 60,000 head, while the lamb crop increased 2.4 percent to 210,000 head.

United States: All sheep and lamb inventory in the United States on January 1, 2007, totaled 6.19 million head, down 1 percent from 2006, but still 1 percent above 2005. After two consecutive year to year increases inventory growth was hampered by extremely dry weather in the Southwestern part of the United States.

Breeding sheep inventory decreased to 4.62 million head on January 1, 2007, down slightly from 4.64 million head

on January 1, 2006. Ewes one year old and older, at 3.71 million head, were 1 percent above last year.

Market sheep and lambs on January 1, 2007, totaled 1.57 million head, down 2 percent from January 1, 2006. Market lambs comprised 94 percent of the total marketings. Twenty-five percent were lambs under 65 pounds, 14 percent were 65 - 84 pounds, 25 percent were 85 - 105 pounds, and 36 percent were over 105 pounds. Market sheep comprised the remaining 6 percent of total marketings.

The 2006 lamb crop of 4.09 million head, was down 1 percent from 2005. The 2006 lambing rate was 112 lambs per 100 ewes one year old and older on January 1, 2006, down 3 percent from 2005.

**All Sheep and Lambs: Number by Class,
Iowa and United States, January 1, 2006-2007**

Class	Iowa			United States		
	2006	2007	2007 as % of 2006	2006	2007	2007 as % of 2006
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>Percent</i>
All Sheep and Lambs	235	235	100	6,230.0	6,185.0	99
Total Breeding Sheep	170	175	103	4,640.0	4,620.0	100
Ewes	132	141	107	3,661.0	3,706.0	101
Rams	7	8	114	196.0	195.0	99
Replacement Lambs	31	26	84	783.0	719.0	92
Total Market	65	60	92	1,590.0	1,565.0	98
	2005	2006	2006 as % of 2005	2005	2006	2006 as % of 2005
Lamb Crop	205	210	102	4,117.0	4,085.0	99

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